

## Foreword

Coast defense was an integral tenet of American military policy throughout **most** of United States history. Defending American cities was a high priority for both Congress and the armed forces. The current and former military sites that dot the coasts of the United States are the legacy of that military policy.

Over the years historians, archaeologists, and others have written much about that part of our heritage, so visible in so many places. But researchers have often had trouble finding those writings, appearing as they do in a variety of local, regional, and national publications. This bibliography assembles information about those writings into one source, making them more accessible\*

*Defending America's Coasts* represents a joint effort of the Formerly Used Defense Sites team of the Environmental Division, and the **Office** of History, both of the Headquarters, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. This is one of several publications designed to help environmental researchers complete their studies as quickly and as economically as possible.



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## About the Author

Dale E. Floyd received a B.S.Ed. in history from Ohio University and an M.A. in history from the University of Dayton. He did additional graduate work at American University.

He was an archivist in military records at the National Archives. He has also been a historian with the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers' Office of History, the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission **staff**, and the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program.

Now retired from the U. S. government, **Mr.** Floyd is a contract historian and tour guide. He is the past chairman of the Coast Defense Study Group and is presently the president of the Civil War Fortification Study Group.

Other publications by Dale Floyd include "*Dear Friends at Home*": *The Letters and Diary of Thomas James Owen, Fiftieth New York Volunteer Engineer Regiment during the Civil War* (1985) and *Military Fortifications: A Selective Bibliography* (1992).

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